

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WARSAW 00338 171653Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 171638Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3009

INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0338

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, XH

SUBJECT: SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN BUSINESS VISITORS

REF STATE A-77, JANUARY 7

1. IN VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THIS PAST WEEK, I HAVE GRAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF GOING AT THIS TIME TO THE POLISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INFORMING THEM THAT WE ARE ABOUT TO INSTITUTE THIS NEW PROCEDURE. I CANNOT HELP WONDERING: (A) WHAT THE REACTION OF POLISH OFFICIALS WILL BE TO THIS STEP AT A TIME WHEN THEY THEMSELVES ARE UNDOUBTEDLY WONDERING ABOUT THE POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON US-POLISH TRADE OF THE SOVIET DENUNCIATION OF THE TRADE BILL; (B) WHAT THE WESTERN PRESS WOULD MAKE OF THIS PROCEDURE IF IT SHOULD BE CALLED TO THE ATTENTION OF WESTERN JOURNALISTS BY EASTERN EUROPEAN OFFICIALS.

2. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, I CONSIDER THIS A RETROGRADE STEP, WHICH WILL HINDER US HERE IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORT TO IMPROVE BUSINESS FACILITIES FOR WESTERN BUSINESSMEN. I AM ALSO FAR FROM CONVINCED THAT IT REPRESENTS EITHER A
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NECESSARY OR AN EFFECTIVE MEASURE IN TERMS OF THE OBJECTIVES

IT IS DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE. HOWEVER, THIS MESSAGE ARISES NOT FROM THESE CONSIDERATIONS, BUT FROM MY CONCERN THAT ANNOUNCING THIS CHANGE IN PROCEDURE AT THIS TIME TO THE POLISH FOREIGN MINISTRY MAY, AT A MINIMUM, BE SERIOUSLY MISINTERPRETED BY OUR POLISH OPPOSITE NUMBERS OR, AT A MAXIMUM, RESULT IN UNWANTED PRESS ATTENTION.

3. I HAVE THEREFORE INSTRUCTED THE CHIEF OF THE EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION NOT TO APPROACH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THIS MATTER AND NOT TO IMPLEMENT THE REMAINDER OF A-77 PENDING RECEIPT OF A REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.
DAVIES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975WARSAW00338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750019-0047
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750140/aaaabjhl.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE A-77
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <11 JUN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN BUSINESS VISITORS
TAGS: CVIS, XH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006